

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HOME AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:202

ANSWERED ON:01.03.2005

INCREASING OF FACILITIES TO FREEDOM FIGHTERS

Barad Shri Jashubhai Dhanabhai

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has received any proposal to increase the facilities to the freedom fighters in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the reaction of the Government thereon?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT)

(a) & (b): The Government has been frequently receiving representations from various persons/ fora for increase in facilities to freedom fighters. The main demands inter alia, are for increase in amount of pension and dearness relief, grant of dependent pension to sons, free education/reservation in professional courses/jobs for dependents, quota in allotment of houses/plots, reservation in State Assemblies/Local Bodies, declaring families of freedom fighters as `Rashtriya Parivars`, etc.

(c): A Statement showing the present amount of pension & dearness relief and facilities available to freedom fighters is annexed. There is no proposal for enhancement in the amount of pension or dearness relief or for increase in the facilities to freedom fighters under consideration of the Government.

Statement referred to in reply to Part (c) of Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No.202 for 01.03.2005 regarding Increasing of Facilities to Freedom Fighters.

1. Amount of Pension & Dearness Relief:

Sl.No.	Category	Monthly Pension (Rs.)	Dearness Relief @ 44% of the monthly pension with effect from August 1, 2004 (Rs.)
--------	----------	-----------------------	--

1.	(a) Ex-Andaman political prisoners	4,000/-	1760/-
	(b) Freedom fighters who suffered outside British India (other than INA)	3,500/-	1540/-

2.	Other freedom fighters (including INA)	3,000/-	1320/-
----	--	---------	--------

3.	Widow/widower of above categories of freedom fighters.	3,000/-	1320/-
----	--	---------	--------

4.	Unmarried & unemployed daughters (subject to a maximum of three such daughters at a time)	1500/- each	660/- each
----	---	-------------	------------

5.	Mother and father	1000/- each	440/- each
----	-------------------	-------------	------------

Note: The enhancement of pension of unmarried & unemployed daughters from Rs. 600/- per month to the eldest daughter & Rs.350/- each per month to the other two daughters to Rs.1500/- each per month to all three daughters was approved by the Government in February 2005.

2. Facilities:

(a) Apart from pension, freedom fighters are also provided the following facilities by the Central Government:-

(i) Free railway pass (1st Class/AC 2 Tier Sleeper) for freedom fighter & widow/widower, with an attendant, for life.

(ii) Free medical facilities in all Central Government Hospitals and in Hospitals and in Hospitals run by PSUs under the control of the bureau of Public Enterprises. C.G.H.S. facilities have also been extended to freedom fighters and their dependents.

(iii) Telephone connection, subject to feasibility, without installation charges, and on payment of only half the rental.

(iv) General Pool residential accommodation (within the overall 5% discretionary quota) to freedom fighters in Delhi. Widow/widower of the freedom fighter is also permitted to retain the accommodation for a period of six months after the death of the freedom fighter.

(v) Accommodation in the Freedom Fighter's Home set up at Baba Kharak Singh Marg, New Delhi for freedom fighters who have none to look after them.

(vi) 2% dealership/distributorship of Petroleum Products allotted through Dealer Selection Boards are reserved for freedom fighters.

(b): In addition to the above facilities, ex-Andaman political prisoners and their widows are also entitled to the following facilities:-

(i) Free voyage facility to visit Port Blair once a year along with a companion.

(ii) Free air travel facility to visit Port Blair once a year from Chennai/Kolkata along with a companion.

(iii) Free travel in Shatabdi/Rajdhani Express trains along with a companion.